



Date: September 21, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On July 30, 2020 Gov. Tony Evers declared a Public Health Emergency and issued an Emergency Order requiring individuals to wear face coverings when indoors and not in a private residence, with some exceptions as clarified and defined in the order. The order is effective at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2020, and will expire on September 28, 2020 or by a subsequent superseding order. Executive Order #82 declaring a public health emergency is available [here](#) and Emergency Order #1 requiring face coverings statewide is available [here](#).

On September 10, 2020 Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) released a [Cloth Face Coverings in Schools: Frequently Asked Questions and Considerations for Use](#). This was sent out to all schools in Wisconsin. Within this document it states, "All students and staff who are able to properly and safely wear and remove a cloth face covering should wear one."

Therefore, **with the recommendation from the CDC, DHS, Outagamie County Public Health Department, and Holy Spirit's Education Committee, Holy Spirit Catholic School is going to continue requiring students in Kindergarten through grade 8 to wear a face covering/mask while inside of school until further notice.** At this time, Preschool 3 and 4K will be expected to wear a face covering/mask while entering, exiting, going to the bathroom, in the hallways or any other common area. So, even after the September 28 mask mandate is passed, we are going to continue to require students to wear a face covering/mask. Thus, when students come to school on September 29, there will be no change in our face covering/mask requirement.

I know how difficult this may be, especially for our little ones. I empathize with you, as I have a child in Kindergarten and 1st grade myself. Students are resilient. We want to continue to be proactive in trying to slow the spread of the virus and keep our students in in-person school. It is our feverous goal to keep the students in school as much as possible. This face covering/mask requirement will provide the best chance to accomplish this goal. We are looking out for not only the safety of the students in continuing their education, but the safety of the teachers and staff who are coming to work every day so children can receive a high quality Catholic education. Thank you for supporting the teachers and staff and please thank them or show your appreciation somehow, as they are being challenged like they have never been challenged before this school year.

Please keep the students and staff in your prayers as we continue the school year during this unprecedented time.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Zuleger

Principal